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Indiana Artisan Program Awards Business Development Grants

INDIANAPOLIS — Lt. Governor Becky Skillman announced this week that 22 artisans will receive business development grants from Indiana Artisan totaling just over \$10,000. The grants are designed to support entrepreneurship and encourage business development among artists and value-added food producers who have applied to be part of the Indiana Artisan program and are producers of high-quality, locally-crafted products.

The funding was available to all artisans who juried into the program in 2008, as well as those who applied for the program but whose work was not juried in. Grants can be used for needs such as legal assistance to incorporate a small business, to cover workshop fees, or for marketing materials. During 2008, Indiana Artisan's first year, 85 artisans were accepted into the program for the exceptional quality of their art, craft or food. The business development grants are one component of Indiana Artisan, a program focused on helping Hoosier entrepreneurs statewide, especially in rural areas, further develop and grow their businesses.

2008 Indiana Artisan Business Development Grant Recipients

Teri Barnett	Marion County	\$500
John Bower	Monroe County	\$500
Amy Brier	Monroe County	\$500
Mercedes Brugh	Cass County	\$500
Carol Burt	Delaware County	\$500
Nita Claise	Perry County	\$500
Diane Dills	Lake County	\$500
Charlene George	Franklin County	\$500
Amy Greely	Brown County	\$500
Judy Gregurich	Porter County	\$500

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Connie Kassal	LaPorte County	\$500
Kendall Miller	Switzerland County	\$500
Marcy Neiditz	Monroe County	\$500
Pam Newell	Hamilton County	\$125
Brian Paffen	Hamilton County	\$500
Mary Ann Pals	Porter County	\$180
Larry Rudolech	Jefferson County	\$500
Carolyn Wainscott	Switzerland County	\$500
Jake Webster	Elkhart County	\$500
Kay Westhues	Elkhart County	\$500
Sue Wilson	Lawrence County	\$500
Thomas Wintczak	Posey County	\$500

For more information about Indiana Artisan, please visit <u>IndianaArtisan.org</u>, or contact Program Manager Eric Freeman at <u>artisan@iac.in.gov</u> or (317) 607-8715.

Indiana Artisan is a joint venture of the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, Indiana Office of Tourism Development, the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, and the Indiana Arts Commission.